

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An adhesive, transdermal formulation containing a suspension of diclofenac sodium in polyoxyl hydrogenated castor oil, a cationic copolymer of a C₁-C₄ alkyl ester of methacrylic acid with an ester of methacrylic acid with a C₁-C₄ alcohol containing a secondary or tertiary amino group, one or more crosslinking agents for said copolymer, an adhesive system and, optionally, other excipients.
2. (original) A formulation according to claim 1 wherein the crosslinking agents are chosen from polycarboxylic acids and long-chain acids.
3. (original) A formulation according to claim 2 wherein the crosslinking agents are chosen from adipic acid, lauric acid, succinic acid.
4. (currently amended) A formulation according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, containing also acidifying/buffering agents, preservatives, flexibilizers.
5. (original) A formulation according to claim 4 containing glycerin as a flexibilizer.
6. (original) A formulation according to claim 4 containing citric acid as an acidifier.

7. (currently amended) A formulation according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, containing between 5 and 50% in weight of polyoxyl hydrogenated castor oil.

8. (currently amended) A formulation according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1 containing between 10 and 30% of polyoxyl hydrogenated castor oil.

9. (currently amended) A formulation according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein the cationic copolymer is a copolymer based on dimethylamino ethylmethacrylate and neutral esters of methacrylic acid.

10. (currently amended) A formulation according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1 wherein the adhesive system is constituted by a copolymer of methacrylic acid with a C₁-C₄ ester of acrylic acid.

11. (currently amended) A transdermal patch constituted by a tissue on which a formulation according to ~~claims 1-10~~ claim 1 is spread and by a protective layer.

12. (original) A transdermal patch according to claim 11 wherein the tissue is 100% non-woven polyester and the protective layer is silicon paper.

13. (currently amended) A transdermal patch according to claim 11 [[or 12]], containing 1 mg of diclofenac sodium per cm² of patch.

14. (new) A transdermal patch according to claim 12, containing 1 mg of diclofenac sodium per cm² of patch.